



MacBook Air 13" Mid 2011 Fan Replacement

Replace a dead fan on your MacBook Air 13" Mid 2011.

Written By: Andrew Bookholt



INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to replace a dead or noisy fan.



TOOLS:

- [P5 Pentalobe Screwdriver Retina MacBook Pro and Air](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)
- [T5 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)



PARTS:

- [MacBook Air 13" \(Late 2010/Mid 2011\) Fan](#) (1)

Step 1 — Lower Case



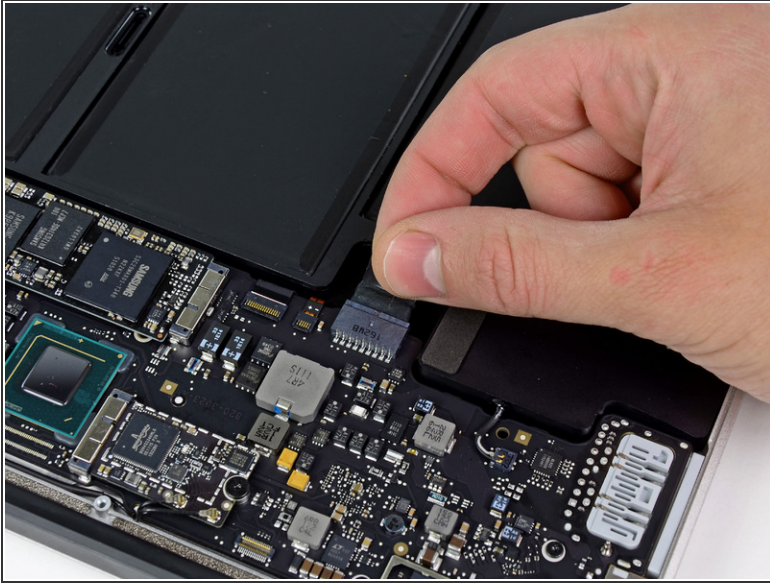
- **Before proceeding, power down your machine. Close the display and lay it on a soft surface top-side down.**
- Remove the following ten screws:
 - Two 9 mm P5 Pentalobe screws
 - Eight 2.6 mm P5 Pentalobe screws
- The special screwdriver needed to remove the ten 5-point Pentalobe screws can be found [here](#).



Step 2



- Wedge your fingers between the display and the lower case and pull upward to pop the lower case off the Air.
- Remove the lower case and set it aside.

Step 3 — Battery Connector



-  As a precaution against accidental discharge or shock, disconnect the battery connector from the logic board.
- Grab the clear plastic pull tab attached to the battery connector and pull it toward the front edge of the Air to disconnect the battery from the logic board.
-  Be sure to pull the connector horizontally toward the battery, and not straight up from the Air, or you may damage the socket on the logic board.

Step 4 — I/O Board Cable



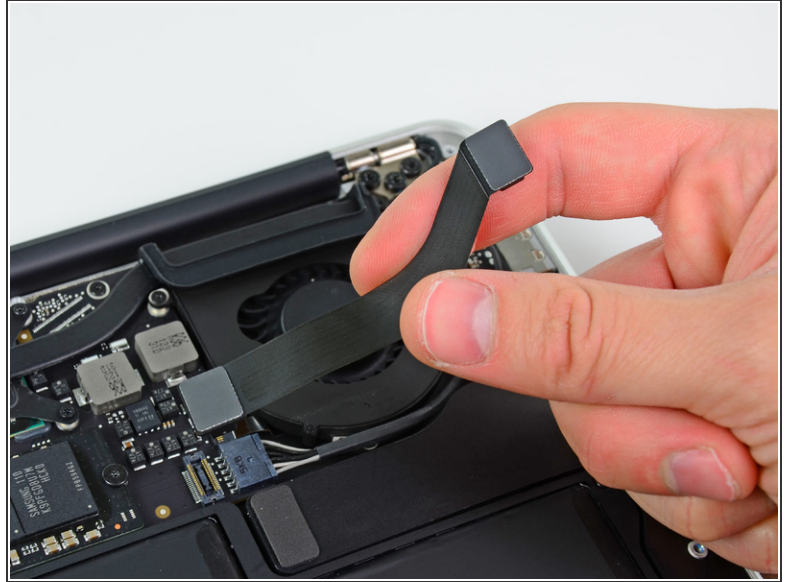
- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the I/O board cable connector upward out of its socket on the I/O board.


Step 5



- Carefully peel the I/O board cable from the top of the fan.

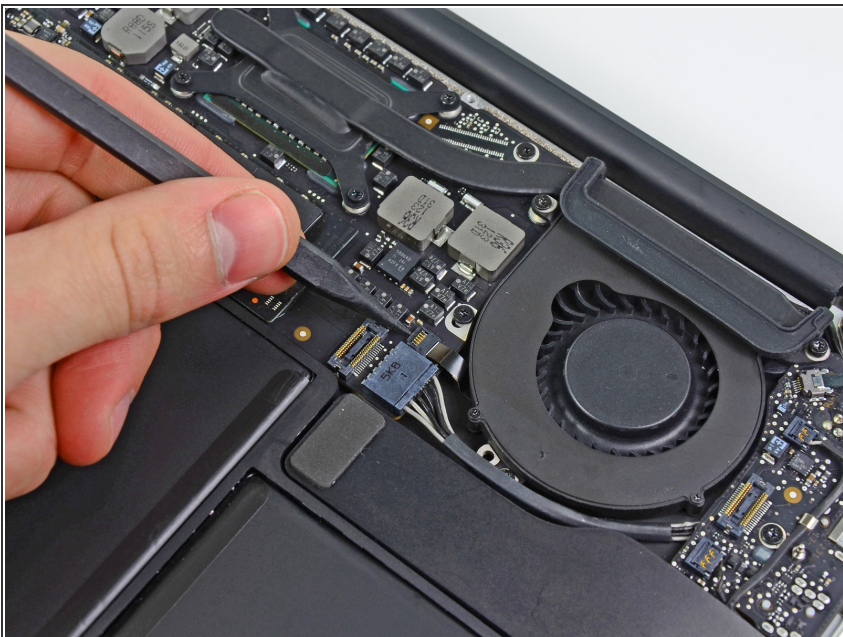
Step 6




 The following connector has an especially deep socket. Use care when disconnecting it.

- While gently pulling the I/O board cable upward near its connection to the logic board, use the tip of a spudger to pry upward on alternating sides of the connector to help "walk" it out of its socket.
- Remove the I/O board cable.

Step 7 — Fan



- Use the tip of a spudger to carefully flip up the retaining flap on the fan cable ZIF socket.

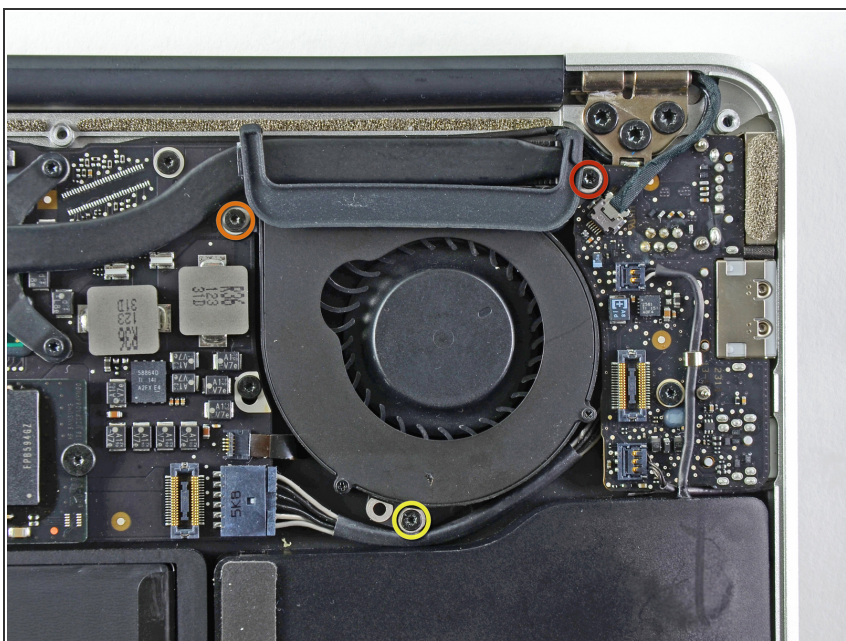
 Be sure you are prying up on the hinged retaining flap, **not** the socket itself.

Step 8



- Peel the rubber gasket off the adhesive on the top of the fan.

Step 9



- Remove the following three screws securing the fan to the upper case:
 - One 3.6 mm T5 Torx screw
 - One 2.7 mm T5 Torx screw
 - One 3.6 mm T5 Torx screw with a short head

Step 10



- Lift the fan out of the upper case and carefully pull the fan ribbon cable out of its socket as you remove it from the Air.

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